

CLEARED IN HOSPITAL SLAYING, MAN NOW HELD IN STORE BLAST

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Lodrick Parker , acquitted in the 1988 shooting death of a reputed drug kingpin at a Detroit hospital, was one of three men arrested Thursday on charges of setting an explosion in a west side store, police said.

Parker , 30, and Kimball Gaskin, were jailed in Chicago after being arrested at Cook County Hospital, where they were being treated for burns suffered in the blast that also hurt three other people, including the store's two employees, police said.

Kamania Barclay, 18, was taken into custody in Detroit, officials said.

According to arrest warrants, all three face two counts of armed robbery, two counts of assault with intent to commit murder, and a count of burning property in the Jan. 11 fire- bombing at the Blessed Candles Store, 19727 W. Seven Mile. **Parker** and Barclay also face felony firearm charges.

Parker stood trial in the September 1988 slaying of Richard (Maserati Rick) Carter, who was shot in the face at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital.

Parker 's thigh bone was shattered in a February gunfight in Oak Park. A month earlier, he was released without charge after being held in the shooting of a Detroit man near Gary, Ind.

Parker is awaiting sentencing after pleading guilty to a cocaine charge, and also is wanted on a bench warrant for failing to appear in court this week on stolen car and weapons charges.

The candle store employees hurt in the blast were Charles Byrd, 58, and Geraldine Anderson, 55. Both were in good condition at a hospital Thursday.

Byrd, his face and hands still wrapped in gauze, said Thursday that he and Anderson were held at gunpoint by two men in the store while a third doused the store with gasoline and lit it, causing an explosion.

At the same store Sept. 28, Byrd's nephew, Thomas Tye, 42, and Tye's wife, Alice, 38, were wounded in a shooting that police said is unsolved.

Caption: Photo

: **LodrickParker**

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